

Care & Maintenance Guide for Brushed & Lacquered Wood Flooring

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1. Introduction

Brushed and lacquered wood flooring is such a lovely balance between practicality and character. You get the textured, natural look from the brushing, paired with the added protection of a lacquered finish.

It's a popular choice for busy homes because it feels a little more forgiving underfoot while still being easy to maintain.

With the right care, it will keep that clean, fresh look while still showing off the natural beauty of the wood.

2. Understanding Brushed & Lacquered

Flooring

This type of flooring combines two key features.

The **brushed surface** gently lifts the softer grain, creating a subtle texture that adds depth and helps disguise small marks.

The **lacquered finish** forms a protective layer on top of the wood. This helps guard against spills, stains, and everyday wear.

Together, they create a floor that is:

- More durable than oiled finishes
- Easier to clean
- Still full of natural character

3. Everyday Care

Keeping your floor looking its best starts with simple daily habits.

A quick sweep or vacuum removes dust and grit that could otherwise cause fine scratches over time.

It's a small step, but it helps preserve that smooth lacquered surface.

4. Weekly Cleaning Routine

For a more thorough clean, a weekly routine works perfectly.

Use a **damp (not wet) mop** and a suitable wood floor cleaner. The lacquer provides some protection, but it's still best to avoid excess water.

Work in sections and allow the floor to dry naturally. This keeps the finish looking clean without leaving streaks.

5. Choosing the Right Cleaning Products

Using the right products will help maintain both the texture and the finish.

Recommended:

- pH-neutral wood floor cleaners
- Cleaners designed for lacquered finishes
- Microfibre mops or soft cloths

These will clean effectively without damaging the protective layer.

6. What to Avoid

Even with a lacquered finish, a few things are best avoided.

Avoid:

- Steam cleaners
- Abrasive brushes or pads
- Harsh chemical cleaners
- Excess water

These can wear down the lacquer or dull the surface over time.

7. Dealing with Spills & Stains

One of the benefits of lacquered flooring is how it handles spills.

Liquids tend to sit on the surface rather than soaking in, making them easier to clean.

Simply wipe up spills promptly with a soft cloth. For anything more stubborn, use a suitable cleaner.

The brushed texture also helps disguise minor marks, which is always helpful in busy spaces.

8. Protecting Your Floor from Everyday Wear

A few small precautions can go a long way.

- Use felt pads under furniture
- Place mats at entrances
- Avoid dragging heavy items
- Keep pet nails trimmed

These simple habits help protect both the lacquered surface and the textured finish.

9. Seasonal Changes & Natural Movement

Wood flooring naturally responds to changes in temperature and humidity.

You may notice slight expansion in warmer months and contraction in cooler conditions. This is completely normal.

Keeping your home at a steady temperature will help reduce movement.

10. Long-Term Maintenance

Brushed and lacquered flooring is relatively low maintenance.

Unlike oiled floors, it does not require regular re-oiling. Instead, care focuses on maintaining the surface layer.

Over time, the lacquer may show signs of wear, particularly in busy areas. When this happens, professional refinishing may be required.

11. Deep Cleaning

Every now and then, a deeper clean will help refresh your flooring.

Use a specialist cleaner designed for lacquered wood floors to remove any build-up of dirt or residue.

Avoid harsh treatments, as these can damage the protective finish.

12. High Traffic Areas

Hallways, kitchens, and living areas tend to see more wear.

You may notice the lacquer dulling slightly in these areas over time. Adding rugs or runners can help protect these spots and extend the life of the finish.

13. Pets, Children & Everyday Living

This type of flooring works beautifully in real homes.

The brushed texture helps disguise small scratches, while the lacquered surface adds a layer of protection against everyday mess.

It's a practical choice that still feels warm and natural.

14. Underfloor Heating Considerations

If used with underfloor heating, keep temperature changes gradual.

Avoid sudden increases and try not to exceed **27°C**. This helps protect both the wood and the lacquered finish.

15. Common Mistakes to Avoid

A few simple things to watch out for:

- Using too much water
- Using harsh or unsuitable cleaners
- Ignoring early signs of wear
- Dragging furniture across the floor

Keeping care gentle and consistent will give the best results.

16. Troubleshooting

Floor looking dull

This may be due to product build-up or wear. A suitable cleaner can help restore clarity.

Light scratches

Often less noticeable due to the brushed texture, but can be minimised with protective measures.

Worn areas

High traffic zones may eventually require professional refinishing.

17. Final Thoughts

Brushed and lacquered wood flooring offers a lovely balance between style and practicality. It has enough texture to feel natural, yet enough protection to handle everyday life with ease.

With simple, regular care, it will continue to look fresh, clean, and full of character for years to come.

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